

Freshwater Macroinvertebrate Sampling Technique

for Submersed Vegetation

Field Guide

In the Field

1. Put the D-net in the water until it almost reaches the bottom in front of the vegetation. Make sure that the net is folded out away from the opening and ready to sample.
2. Push the D-net horizontally into the vegetation bouncing the net into the sediments twice.
3. Vertically bring the D-net up through the vegetation at a constant rate until you reach the surface of the water.
4. Slowly lift the D-net out of the water. As the water flows through, make sure that no organisms escape by climbing out. This is one sample.
5. Use the sieved water in squirt bottle to concentrate all organisms and debris at the bottom of the net.
6. Grab the bottom of the net and overturn the net carefully to release all of its content into a bucket. Use the squirt bottles to make sure that all organisms and debris have been transferred to the bucket.
7. Place the bucket(s) in the shade until you are ready to sort, count and identify organisms.
8. Repeat steps 1-7 until you have collected the number of samples you need for this habitat type.